

Nation

Volume 9, No. 11 • April 19, 2002

Softwood Lumber Agreement

RCMP Won't Charge DFO Officers

Talks Shut Out First Nations



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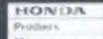
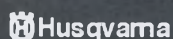
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SELECTIVE JUSTICE ISN'T OBJECTIVE JUSTICE

In this issue there is a story that may upset you. It is the story of how the RCMP have decided not to charge any of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans officers over the violent incidents at Burnt Church. I'm sure you all remember the video of the DFO boat ramming and running over a Native fisherman's boat. Apparently there are other videos that show a DFO officer repeatedly hitting a Native man while he was in the water. Finally other DFO officers pulled the guy away. Obviously this implies that more than reasonable force was used in this case and was recognized as such by other DFO officers. The RCMP and prosecutors office decided that there wasn't enough evidence to lay charges.

This all by itself would seem to indicate a miscarriage of justice but add to that the fact that overwhelming forces were brought to bear against the Burnt Church First Nation by the RCMP and the DFO. Then add in the fact that non-Native fishermen were given practically carte blanche privileges when they went in and destroyed Burnt Church fishermen's property and you begin to get a sense of injustice not only being condoned but being encouraged by the very forces that are supposed to protect all Canadians.

It would seem to any rational person that a selective form of justice or lack of justice is happening in the Burnt Church area. One wonders where the Gathering Strength Program of Indian Affairs Minister Robert Nault is hiding or what exactly Gathering Strength means in Canadian political and judicial structures when applied to First Nations?

I remember the outrage directed at National Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come when he called Canada racist when he was at the UN conference on racism in Durban, South Africa. Where are those paragons of moral indignation? Are they only exercised or voiced when White privilege is threatened in some way?

Something is certainly wrong and the way the law is being applied certainly seems to be race-based when you compare the methods with which First Nations and the non-Native DFO officers are treated by the justice system.



One only has to look at the beginnings of this conflict to see that. The originator of the Marshall case was wrongly sent to prison for 11 years on a trumped-up murder conviction. It was found that he was innocent and that the police didn't do their jobs in connection with that case. When Donald Marshall Jr. got out of jail he went back to the courts over his right to fish and sell the catch. When he finally got to the Supreme Court of Canada it was decided that Native people could fish and sell the catch in order to make a moderate living.

That is when things began to fall apart. The DFO got involved even though they were only supposed to intervene if there was a danger to a species. Things escalated from there when the Mi'kmaq began fishing for lobster. Even though they would only get a single digit percentage of the total catch, non-Native fishermen were up in arms.

And now in this latest escalation a message is sent out to the protectors of our society that it's alright to use unreasonable force against the First Nations of this land. Canada may be "our home and native land" but it is becoming obvious that it's sometimes neither "glorious," nor "free."

By Will Nicholls

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ON THE COVER

Springtime's Coming
Photographer: Will Nicholls
Cover Design: Richard Lawson

AT A LOSS FOR WORDS

I was dumbfounded when I read in the Gazette that two new hydroelectric projects were signed off by our Inuit brothers and sisters to the North. Nunavik is to be exploited for hydro electric power, which is to be sent down to the south. On the recent aftermath of the signing of the AIP where not a word was said of further development in the north, our Inuit counterparts do the same tango with the province as we did. Tit for tat, I presume. I thought I was going to be untouched in the far northern regions where I now reside, but I was sorely wronged in my presumptuous comfort. Landry two, aboriginals zero. The score rests in the coming years as the game of economy is played to the end in overtime as we attempt to even the odds within twenty five to fifty years.

Another thought had occurred to me, a pending doom and disaster overshadowed my often smiled and laughter wrinkled face, the news that an asteroid is heading towards earth. It is expected to arrive close within the next twenty-eight years. Darn, I think, not enough time to spend 3.5 billion. Could we get an advance please, Mr. Landry? Is there enough money to build a new ark to take our people out of harms way? Sometimes, I wish I wasn't so damn interested in the sciences to learn about outer space and the airless dangers that lurk between here and Mars. But who cares, we're rich anyways.

Money can buy comfort and homes, build businesses and restore confidence in the stock markets, perhaps enough to make the Looney worth its weight in copper. Money can

do strange things to people, strange and powerful enough to make politicians to sacrifice the environmental lamb for the almighty dollar. Powerful enough to sacrifice the future of the land and the animals that inhabit the woods and the fish that swim the now turgid and murky waters of the nouchmi eennou. I, in my own self confidence, thought that technology and development could not reach the far north, that the frigid 55th parallel was strong enough to hold back any snowbird's wish to spend the winter, but I was dead wrong.

Perhaps the jobs that do come out of the agreements will make an economical difference in our communities, but many social issues must be addressed in a fashion that will be different than how we did things in the past. The mighty talleyman's role of beaver counter will have to change to land manager, the schools role will have to change from babysitting to education, the municipal's roles will have to convert from spending to conserving and the people role will have to convert from pacifism to activism and development.

In many ways, development can be good for the economy and for the people who benefit should be from the communities, but in some weird way, I have this funny feeling that the status quo of operating will be predominantly acceptable and sublimely obvious (excuse the oxymoron).

Perhaps this is the way of the future... life after A.I.P.

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Nation

SOFTWOOD NEGOTIATIONS SIDESTEP FIRST NATIONS



Fallout from the ongoing softwood lumber dispute is taking its toll on Canadians - just ask the 15,000 British Columbia forestry workers who lost their jobs after the U.S. Government levied duties 29 per cent on incoming softwood lumber.

The lumber industry is reeling, but it is Canada's First Nations who must contend with having been excluded from a decision that was made in without regard to constitutionally protected Aboriginal treaties.

The dispute centres on the U.S. government's contention that the provincial governments subsidize their lumber industries. Timber companies pay what is called a "stumpage fee" to the provincial government for every tree cut. This is meant to regulate logging, but according to the Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC), these fees are often reduced or even returned to the company that paid them. The U.S. Government wants to prevent a flood of cheap Canadian wood on the American market, and so they imposed a duty on Canadian softwood lumber to "level the playing field" between the two markets.

Aboriginal groups claim to have been shut out of these discussions, and National Aboriginal Forestry Association (NAFA) Executive Director Harry Bombay has called the tariff a major deterrent to First Nation forest-based economic development.

"The...dispute is going to be a factor holding us back in terms of our ability to access the U.S. softwood lumber market. We need that market if First Nations are going to benefit economically from the forest resources on [First Nations] lands," said Bombay.

NAFA is an Ottawa-based NGO that has been advancing the concepts of aboriginal control and sustainable development of forest resources since 1989. Their role as a First Nation-controlled organization is to advise and provide technical support on forestry issues to communities.

The measure taken by the U.S. in response to subsidized logging carries with it two conditions that NAFA says would undermine Canadians and First Nations alike. "The U.S. is saying that we need to have more private ownership, and that our selling of wood has to be more market-based. Those two conditions...don't take into consideration the Canadian situation, and the fact that average people do have an interest, title, and right to the forests and lands of Canada."

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) was unwilling to comment on the grounds that the softwood dispute was a trade issue.

If the tariff hike has a silver lining for First Nations, it would be that logging will slow down. And though that may be less than stellar news for business, it could also mean less pressure on disputed lands.

"The Grand Council said that they had an interest in these lands," explained environmental analyst Jeff Quayle. "Some of these people are subsidized by not having to account for treaties. You have certain limits to protect the environment under treaty like James Bay, and if you're not following that treaty, then you're obviously getting an indirect subsidy," he said.

The Council maintains that forestry is a threat to First Nation land rights, but according to the Natural Resources Defense Council

(NRDC) Canada and the provinces often allow logging despite First Nations land rights.

The Grand Council first entered into the debate because logging companies have been operating on lands of dispute. They felt that if the government was discussing trade policy with the U.S., that policy would have an impact on what happens back on these traditional lands.

An agreement has since been signed by the Council and the Quebec Government, whereby a revenue-sharing formula was adopted to compensate for Cree lands that were logged.

The NRDC alleges that logging companies still benefit from uncertainty and a lack of enforcement for Aboriginal Land Titles.

CBC LOCK-OUT CONTINUES

If you've been wondering where your favorite Cree programs are it's because after a 24-hour strike CBC/Radio-Canada in Quebec locked-out their employees. The strike was over pay equity for women and job precarity, but it has grown to include the CBC North's Native workers, including four Crees and one Abenaki/French worker. Stephane Boisjoly told the *Nation* that announcer/producers for CBC North are paid \$5,000 less a year than their counterparts in Radio Canada International. Boisjoly said both his Native and non-Native striking colleagues weren't even aware of this until this strike and lock-out. "Both RCI and CBC North are broadcast on shortwave and the internet and CBC North is also on CBC FM transmitters in the north," said Boisjoly. It's something that Boisjoly finds unfair and said when he informed fellow union members about this they supported his motion to include pay equity for the Native workers in the negotiations.

Just how well that it going is a mystery to everyone as the negotiations are behind closed doors and union members agreed that the negotiating committee would be the only ones to know what is happening until the final offer.

Boisjoly, though, hopes to put more pressure on the CBC management on April 19. He is planning a Native Support Day to start at 11:30 a.m. in front of the CBC building in Montreal at 1400 Rene-Levesque E. He is hoping to get all Natives and Aboriginal organizations involved. "We've invited National Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come to come and talk," said Boisjoly.

Chris Paré

To all EYEOUCH: Children, Youth, Elders, Women, Men Hunters and Tallyman and Chiefs.

We call him, Chissa-Manitou (GOD) under the sacred Law of Chissa-Manitou, we have the ultimate sovereign power and authority to govern ourselves and to determine our future.

We call (Pemadsewin) a concept that refers to the interconnectedness of all things in the Universe and beyond. Our institutions and our nation, we must freely pursue our cultural, social, spiritual, for our benefit, but also for the benefit of all peoples and of all creation. According to our elders this is our sacred duty and our destiny and political institutions in accordance with Eeyou Law.

The Eeyou Nation; to build upon what we already have language, culture, government, institution, land and resources;

to respect treaty of the Eeyouch under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement of all life in the world, of world peace. It is in their lifetime that the difference will be witnessed, but the healing has to begin, now! Chissa-Manitou (The Great Creator) as our Maker, our Provider, our Protector, the Source of our very essence and power: culture and way of life of Eeyou mission and Vision. To promote awareness at the community level, the Eeyouch face today with respect to our relations with Governments' PEACE.

Future Nation, Creation Nation, Peace, Power and Vision.

Peter Mianscum

Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation

Concerned Eeyou Trapper and Hunter

Developing better solutions to meet customers' needs

The vast majority of Hydro-Québec's customers regularly pay their electricity bills by the due date. However, some 400,000 fail to do so, resulting in debts totaling tens of millions of dollars each year.

As a company with a social commitment to all Quebecers, Hydro-Québec must remind these customers that no one has a right not to pay for their electricity. At the same time, the company is well aware that certain people have trouble making ends meet. That's why it is constantly developing new solutions in response to specific customer needs.

New solutions geared to low-income customers

The reasons why some customers do not systematically pay their bills on time are numerous and, in some cases, quite complex. While many people simply forget, others find themselves in circumstances that make it very difficult for them to honor their commitments. Fortunately, Hydro-Québec offers practical solutions to these customers.

In cooperation with consumer associations, Hydro-Québec has developed new types of arrangements for low-income residential customers who can't keep up with their

payments. By adapting its practices to these customers' needs, the company is increasing its chances of collecting overdue accounts.

Hydro-Québec therefore encourages all customers who are experiencing financial difficulties to contact one of its representatives as soon as possible in order to negotiate a payment arrangement. Through open discussion, they can arrive at a solution that will allow the customer to get a handle on the situation before it gets out of hand, and thereby maintain good relations with Hydro-Québec.

Disconnection: A last resort

The role of Hydro-Québec's representatives is to come to an understanding with customers. When people fall behind in their payments, a representative tries to contact them in order to discuss the matter and find the most appropriate solution.

But however fair Hydro-Québec's collection policy might be, it is nonetheless stringent and can ultimately lead to disconnection. Customers who face this extreme measure are notified in advance and are given another chance to clear their debt or work out an arrangement before their power is cut off.

Postponing is no answer

Of course, the best way to guard against unmanageable bills is to pay each one by the due date so as to keep your balance in check. If that's not possible, the next best thing is to work out a payment arrangement.

Avoiding pitfalls when moving

If you're thinking of moving, it's a good idea to contact Hydro-Québec and inquire about the approximate electricity costs for the dwelling you have in mind before making your final decision. You should also remember to advise Hydro-Québec of your move well in advance so that you don't have to pay for electricity you haven't consumed, either at your old address or at the new location.

Social responsibility: An ongoing commitment for Hydro-Québec

Hydro-Québec is committed to providing top-quality services to Quebecers while remaining on a sound financial footing. As part of its social contract, however, it must also find sustainable solutions to meet the energy needs of low-income customers. To this end, the company maintains ongoing relations with community

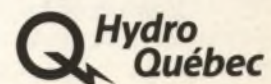
organizations and consumer associations.

Further tangible proof of Hydro-Québec's social commitment lies in the fact that at the onset of winter, the company restores service to residential customers who have electric heating and whose power had been disconnected for failure to pay. Moreover, other residential customers with overdue accounts who heat their homes with electricity are not deprived of power during the winter months.

However, customers are also required to show good faith by paying what they owe to Hydro-Québec. Customers whose power was restored for the winter on humanitarian grounds must therefore discharge their debt or make appropriate payment arrangements if they want to avoid having their power disconnected again in the spring.

Act now!

Have you accrued a large outstanding balance on your electricity bill? If so, call one of our representatives today at the number printed on your notice. Together, the two of you can work out an arrangement that will help you get back on your feet.





CLARENCE HESTER: IN A LEAGUE ALL HIS OWN

The path leading to Clarence Hester was an interesting one, in that it rarely proceeded in a straight line. The first link came in the form of an email from Alex Mapachee who was taking pictures at a minor and old timers hockey tournament in Waskaganish, and had taken a picture of a 61-year-old man who was participating in his 16th tournament.

The chain proceeded to Neil Cheechoo in Waskaganish who had been coaching in the tournament. Upon hearing a description of the veteran player, it was no time before he started to explain who Clarence Hester was, since it happened to be that Clarence was Neil's wife's uncle.

Clarence grew up in Waskaganish but now lives in Moosonee, Ontario where he works for Air Creebec doing freight, and training new employees. Not only has he been playing the Waskaganish tournament for close to two decades, but he also manages to take part in a number of others year-round.

In fact, he was even on hand with his team as they tied their skates in Timmins this year. And if you were on hand two years ago for the competition in Waskaganish then there would be no second-guessing the tenacity of a man who defied a snowstorm just to play - even though the rest of his team couldn't make it. Their equipment did, however, and they eventually made a third team for Clarence to play on. But who

would have known it would happen twice in a row?

Finding out more about Clarence meant another detour and a phone call to his brother. According to Walter Hester, his brother had left Waskaganish for Moosonee in the sixties. In the late 1960s he went south to Virginia, Ontario, to work in the gold mines, and it was in the early 70s when he moved back to Moosonee and married Sally Morrison.

Prior to his tenure at Air Creebec Clarence worked with Austin Airlines. As far as Walter can tell, Clarence went to go work in the airport back in 1973, and since Air Creebec was founded in 1979 that means he has been with the now 100 per cent Cree-owned airline for 23 years.

He has played ever since his days at residential school, and now keeps it to about three or four tournaments a year. Still, it was not so long ago when he was 57, and decided to sign up with the "over-eighteen" team in the Moosonee hockey league.

"It was...interesting," laughed Walter, "when they read that list and saw his name."

At the end of road, Clarence will no doubt carry on skating forever. When asked if Clarence Hester said anything to him that might help readers understand him, Coach Neil Cheechoo remembered something: "I'll be back next weekend."

by Chris Pare

Coon Come in political trouble at AFN

Paul Barnsley of the Ottawa-based Native publication *Windspeaker* reveals major divisions within the Assembly of First Nations. In an article last week, Barnsley contends AFN national chief Matthew Coon Come is facing a credibility crisis.

Barnsley's sources say a meeting was held at the AFN building in late January or early February where an AFN employee (who is no longer with the organization) hosted a group of AFN rebels-disgruntled employees and former employees. The plan was to form a "shadow AFN" that could access government funding and proceed on a less confrontational track.

Some of the people who attended that meeting argued against such a move, saying it would play into the government's hands, and the attempted mutiny didn't materialize. One other employee was asked to seek other employment after similar attempts at organizing were discovered by management.

Coon Come missed a meeting involving the AFN executive and the Indian Affairs minister in January. He was also a no-show at the Winnipeg meeting on governance on March 11 and 12.

More than one source said an attempt to force the national chief's resignation could be made at the annual general meeting in Montreal this July. One source suggested the organization even faces the danger of not surviving until July in its present form.

With the national chief frequently missing from the national stage, Dwight Dorey, the president of the Congress of Aboriginal People, who has recently taken to calling himself the national chief, has been called the "rising star" of Indian politics in the mainstream press. That an organization that claims to represent people whether they are members or not can be taken more seriously than the national chiefs' organization is especially galling to many AFN veterans.

Saskatchewan Vice Chief Perry Bellegarde, when asked by *Windspeaker* on March 22 if he was concerned with the state of the things at the national office, replied, "I'm not going to BS you, there is some concern there."



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Sun Peaks protesters meet human rights monitors

The Secwepemc Natives of interior British Columbia report that a sixth Protection Centre has been set up at the entrance of Sun Peaks Ski Resort to protect Aboriginal Title and ensure the accommodation of indigenous interests. It has been met with legal threats by the Sun Peaks developers, the protesters say.

The Secwepemc also say they have established a network of support and human rights observation groups and monitors who have been placed on alert in the event Sun Peaks and the provincial government use court action to remove Skwel'wek'wek Protection Center Numbers 5 and 6. They include representatives of the Mennonite Central Committee, Christian Peacemaker Teams, Canada-Columbia Solidarity Campaign, and Sami delegates from Samiland. (Sapmi).

These groups visited Skwel'wek'wek last week to meet with Secwepemc and devise plans for training for human rights monitors to be sent to the area and support peace-building efforts. Protesters say these efforts are needed to help prevent on-going police intimidation and harassment of the Secwepemc.

Doug Pritchard of Christian Peacemaker Team said, "We have worked in many aboriginal communities and we call upon all Canadians to respect the rights of their Aboriginal neighbors".

Sophie Aikio from Samiland stated, "the Secwepemc are facing the same concerns as indigenous peoples all over the world. Whatever happens in Canada affects us as well. Indigenous peoples throughout the world are following the situation of the Secwepemc in Canada."

Dakota Tipi First Nation Takes Minister Nault to Court

The Dakota Tipi First Nation in Manitoba is filing a legal challenge to Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Robert Nault's decision to place an Indian Agent to run the First Nation's affairs.

On April 5, solicitor Norman Boudreau filed Chief Dennis Pashe's action in Federal Court to have Nault's action quashed and set aside as being beyond his jurisdiction, failing to observe principles of natural justice and procedural fairness, basing his decision on erroneous finding, and acted in a perverse and capricious manner without regard to the facts.

Chief Pashe alleges that Nault is violating the aboriginal right of the Dakota Tipi First Nation to select its leadership according to its own custom – and that right is recognized and affirmed in Canada's constitution. "It's the people of Dakota Tipi who have an established historic right to determine their leadership who give me my power as Chief, not the Indian Act," Pashe said in announcing the court action. "The Minister has no power to deny the people that right."

Pashe warned Nault's action, if left unchallenged, threatens all of the more than three hundred First Nation communities across Canada who do not fall under the provisions of the Indian Act. "If Nault can move in wherever he wants without consultation or due process, each First Nation's right to self-government can get its death warrant any day." Nault's Governance Act, expected to be tabled in Parliament next month, will bring an end to the right of First Nations to choose their leadership in their customary manner, Pashe predicts.

Dakota Tipi is one of the tiniest reserves in Canada – just thirty acres. The first Dakota Tipi reserve was purchased in the 1890s by the ancestors of the current inhabitants from their

own earnings as farm workers in the Portage la Prairie area. Then in the 1950s, to move the Dakota people out of the town of Portage, their urban lands were taken over by the government and they were moved to their current 30-acre location on the outskirts of town.

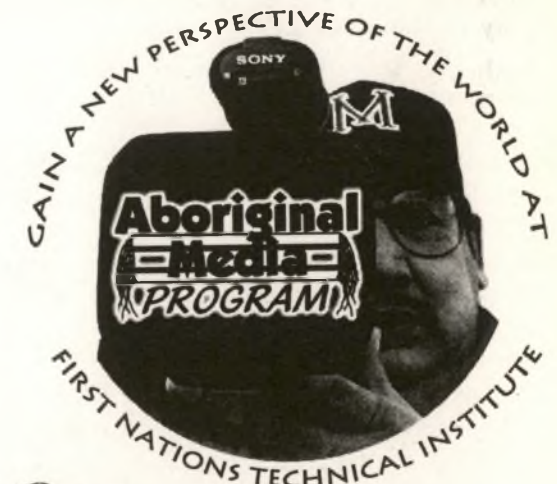
Smuggled Mohawk smokes turn up in B.C.

The Vancouver Province reports that contraband cigarettes sold by Ontario natives and smuggled into B.C. have started turning up in Vancouver stores. The discount Mohawk brand called DK's sell for \$4.50 a pack under the counter, more than \$2 less than comparable over-the-counter cigarettes. Although legally manufactured on Akwasasne Mohawk territory, DK's are illegal to sell in B.C.

Police and cigarette manufacturers warned about the potential for increased smuggling into B.C. after the provincial government's decision earlier this year to increase taxes on cartons of smokes by \$8. A carton now costs \$62 – the fourth-highest in Canada. By comparison, a carton of Ontario smokes costs \$11.80 less.

DK's cigarettes come wrapped in a gold seal, whereas smokes that are legal for sale in B.C. should have a green wrapper indicating that the excise tax has been paid. But the lower price makes many consider the purchase worth the risk.

The Akwasasne Mohawk territory straddles the U.S.-Canada border and has long been dubbed a smuggler's haven by authorities concerned about the movement of people, drugs, booze and cigarettes between the U.S. and Canada. Vipond said police in B.C. have an ongoing investigation into DK's smuggling.



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The Great Outdoorsman Show 2002



-Will Nicholls-

The Great Outdoorsman Show is always great and primes me for the spring goose hunt and upcoming fishing season. I get to wander around and look at the latest in new offerings from some of the best.

I was a little disappointed in the layout of the show this year. Last year the Native section was featured in the front but this year it was in the back and a little hard to find. I nearly missed it. One of the things missing from this year's show was the Cree presence. In fact there were no Cree presenters at all. There were fewer presenters overall, but it is still a great show to go to prepare for the hunt or fishing or to just dream.

Top kudos go to Teepee Tseiwei. They were selling them of course. A 12 footer cost \$520 with options for a



Gilles' wolf bed: it's \$3,500 but the wife hopes no one's buying.



One of the many Native artists showing off his skill

liner and poles bringing the cost to \$937. A 15 ft. teepee was \$765 (with options \$1,260) and a 17 1/2 ft cost \$925 (with option \$1,363). A few old friends were on hand and some of their work is shown here.

My old friend Gilles has a beautiful bed in the making and is asking about \$3,500. From the details I would have to say that it is well worth the cost. It has been a year so far in creation.

This year I noticed Weatherby showed up. They have some of the best-looking guns around and according to their literature the most accurate. It is



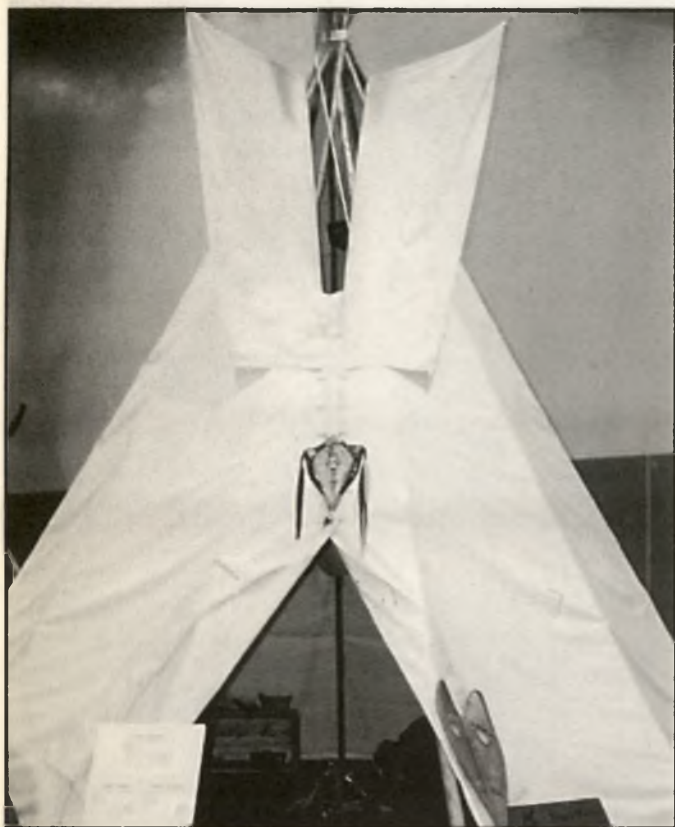
Extreme chamo!!!


something that I would be tempted to take on spec just because of their reputation. The Weatherby .460 is the world's most powerful shoulder-fired cartridge. It is the darling of snipers and big game hunters everywhere. For goose and duck hunters, their shotguns all have one great feature besides outstanding performance; an ambidextrous, two-position crossbolt safety that can also be switched from the right side to accommodate left-handed shooters. I was almost drooling

as I hefted one of their shotguns. The weight and the way it fits into your shoulder were beautiful. All I needed was a goose or two to make my day.

Another out-of-the-ordinary dealer in hunting weaponry was Benelli. This is the company that the United States Marine Corps awarded the US Joint Service Combat Shotgun honors to for the Benelli M4 Super 90. The Marines took it and said it came through the worst they could


You'll be pleased to know that Western life jackets and vest have added considerably to their line. Some of the new styles are quite fashionable.





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Mi'kmaq PEOPLE FORCED TO SWALLOW A BITTER PILL

by Janice Harvey

The RCMP's decision not to lay charges against DFO enforcement officers for their actions in an August 29, 2000 raid off the shores of Esgenoopetitj (Burnt Church) is a bitter pill to swallow for native people struggling to assert their treaty rights under the Canadian constitution. For anyone who saw the video footage taken by Christian Peacemaker and Aboriginal Rights Coalition observers on that early morning of August 29, 2000, it is incomprehensible.

Canadians were shocked by the scene broadcast on national newscasts – a high powered DFO patrol vessel deliberately swamping a small open boat with Mi'kmaq fishermen on board. But there's more the networks didn't broadcast. I saw video footage which showed at least two DFO patrol vessels cornering a small dory with two fishermen aboard, while a third went right over the top of the dory, forcing the occupants to jump overboard, and sinking the boat completely. The patrol boat was so firmly lodged on top of the native boat, it had to reverse its engines to get off it.

The video also recorded a DFO officer repeatedly striking a native man in the water until other officers pulled him away and restrained him, allowing the man in the water to escape. There are other testimonies to the early morning raid which bolster this very disturbing visual record. Presumably this is some of the evidence reviewed – and discounted – by the RCMP and the Public Prosecutions office in Fredericton.

I realize there are subtleties about evidence and its collection that often confound the application of justice. But I can't imagine that the complaint against DFO isn't valid – that enforcement officers used excessive force against native fishers that day. Certainly by all moral and ethical standards, the unanswered aggression and force used against Esgenoopetitj people that day would be judged unacceptable by any justice-loving Canadian.

In refusing to act on the complaint, the RCMP is continuing its complicity with DFO's heavy-handed tactics. In a brief to the National Aboriginal Advisory Committee of the federal Justice Department in November 2001, the Community of Esgenoopetitj documented several complaints against the RCMP itself.

The brief alleges the RCMP was equally engaged with DFO against native fishermen. During the 2000 fall fishery, RCMP officers "were assembled in full combat gear, including high calibre automatic assault rifles." On one occasion, according to the brief, an RCMP patrol boat rammed and sank a small boat carrying human rights observers who were recording DFO actions against native fishermen. The occupants were arrested, taken to the detention centre, and the video and equipment confiscated. One year later the video, with sections erased, was returned to the observer in a box of disassembled parts.

The brief describes another incident involving a native fisherman taken into RCMP custody after an altercation on the water with DFO. The man, a severe diabetic, had suffered injuries at the hand of DFO and required medical treatment. Such treatment was denied by the RCMP, so the man used the phone call he was allowed for acquiring legal counsel to call '911' instead. An ambulance responded and got him to the hospital for treatment. Meanwhile, RCMP denied human rights observers permission to record the man's injuries and poor health condition, threatening them with arrest if they did so. The brief also cites lack of RCMP intervention in the various incursions into Esgenoopetitj fishing grounds by white fishermen, when gear was destroyed and shots fired, despite being on the water at the time.



The brief concludes that "the RCMP refuses to be responsive to upholding and/or defending Community inherent and treaty fishing rights...against violence and the threat of violence from any source" as required under Section 35 of the Canadian constitution. Understandably, the Community of Esgenoopetitj feels that justice is not blind.

In September 2000, just after the infamous August 29 raid, I wrote, "Let's be frank. DFO can get away with this because these people are natives. It's an unpopular suggestion to make, but in this situation we must with all honesty and humiliation uncover those racist tendencies that cloud our perception of justice and to whom it is afforded." Nothing has changed.

It is a sad reality that Constitutionally-enshrined rights are not automatically defended by our federal law enforcement agency. Rights have to be exercised and defended to keep them from being usurped. Unfortunately, this takes incredible sacrifice, copious financial resources and legal expertise. Clearly the Community of Esgenoopetitj has demonstrated the sacrifice. Their boats and traps are gone and their people browbeaten, weary and impoverished. To rely on the courts to assert – yet again – their treaty and constitutional rights and to curb the power of federal agencies that refuse to acknowledge those rights, is probably far beyond their means.

It shouldn't be up to minorities to defend our Constitution. This is the responsibility of the majority. Canadians should demand that the evidence backing the complaint against DFO be opened for public scrutiny. If the RCMP succeeds in keeping this matter out of court, then a public inquiry should be launched, just as it was when the RCMP tromped on the constitutional rights of students at the APEC demonstrations in Vancouver. On the table should be both DFO and RCMP behaviour. Nothing less than this should be afforded the sustained harassment of Burnt Church natives by federal agencies.

Janice Harvey is a freelance writer. She can be reached by e-mail at waweig@nbnet.nb.ca.

Cree B & D: A new Cree Company

Cree B & D inc., was founded by us, Daniel and Rejean Belanger, two brothers whom reside and are beneficiaries of the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi. This particular business has been a dream and an aspiration for us since childhood, which is one of the reasons why we have always worked in this related field.

After enormous hours and/or years of dedication in working toward the realization of this dream... we can now say that we have achieved the first step of actually starting the operation of our business. We have been recognized by the Regie du Batiment du Quebec and we will be receiving our ISO 9002 registration.

However, we have yet much work ahead of us to successfully accomplish our goals and objectives of our business. Our objectives as a Cree owned business is to create employment, to qualify and/or to improve the skills and knowledge of the work force in the related field, to provide adequate services to our customers in Communities and/or regional natural resources development and/or infrastructure projects and to inspire our fellow brothers, James Bay Eenouch/Eeyouch, that pursuing your dreams can lead to reality.....

With the Agreement that has now been signed with the Government of Quebec and the Crees of the James Bay Eenouch/-Eeyouch, we assume that chances of bidding for major hydro, infrastructure, forestry and/or mining development projects will hopefully be favourable to Cree companies such as ours that have obtained all necessary licensing and permits.

The main services that Cree B & D inc. is offering are; excavation, sewer and water projects, cement, hauling gravel and any other type that would require heavy machinery operation.

We have approached and requested the possibility of training in all areas of operation a similar company, Construction Val d'Or Ltee. We feel that this company's knowledge and expertise could bring us great benefits for the venture we are trying to fulfill especially the fact that it is family founded and oriented company.



As a result, we are in the process of executing the training and now are at the step in tendering for contract that will be beneficial to our business and to create employment for our people in the communities.

We are here today asking that you give our business a chance to excel and demonstrate that we are capable of such work.

We thank you very much for your time and consideration regarding this matter and should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following number (819) 856-4640.

We here at Cree B & D would like to thank Chief Paul Gull and Waswanipi Band Council.

Henry Gull; Director of Community Services
Naomi Awashish; Director of Human Resources
Marlien Kitchen; Waswanipi Development Corp. Ltd.

Thank you for recognizing us and giving your full support and encouragement to make our own dream come true – from the proud owners of Cree B & D.

Frank Blacksmith - Equipment Manager
Daniel Belanger
Rejean Belanger
We thank you.

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"dreams can become a reality"

SEEKING HELP TO STAY STRONG

By **Byran Bishop**



Reaching out for help in times of trouble is not a sign of weakness. Instead it is about wanting to stay strong.

But sometimes pride is everything and we are more likely to go to a hospital with a broken leg or a throat infection than see a psychologist or a counselor about a family problem.

Too often the signs of trouble are ignored in the hope that they would go away on their own or that we could handle the situation. And help is only sought when the problematic situation is almost or already out of control.

Help is always available and it could come in a variety of ways. There are natural helpers (such as trusted friends, elders, and other relatives), counselors, social workers, psychologists, churches, hospitals, and treatment centres.

Taking the time to find the right resource and someone with whom you feel comfortable talking to can be frustrating at times but it is certainly worth the effort. It is mostly about asking questions of friends, acquaintances and service providers in the community.

The decision to seek help is also about recognizing and acknowledging that there is a problem and using the

help effectively means committing yourself to a process rather than a single event.

Far too often the expectation is that difficulties which have evolved 15 or 20 years could be resolved in one or two meetings with a counselor.

Using help effectively also requires effort and it is sometimes painful but the results can be rewarding. It also means showing up for appointments and having a willingness to change some established ways of thinking and doing things.

The good thing about human beings is that we could always unlearn old habits and learn new things at any age.

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see you soon!



Becoming More Entrepreneurial and Less Bureaucratic for Advancement in Economic Development Within our Cree World

These days when I watch even cartoons with my children there is something to do with develop and sustainability. It's everywhere folks.

They say that it has been defined that sustainable development, is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. First of all I would like to thank our elders for generations and generations past. They have done their part, but have we in our Cree World today. One thing is for certain that this path was chosen for us people the second we started signing documents and started focusing on \$\$\$\$\$\$ as an alternative for survival.

It makes you think of what we can do to prosper and to move in a direction in which we might think is the right direction, but just when you think things are going right, up comes another problem. However, to every problem there are more opportunities. Take for example the JBNQA and now the new agreement with the Quebec government, there could be more opportunities than problems for now.

It makes sense that in the new agreement we are to revive growth; conserve and enhance the resource base; ensure a sustainable level of population and jobs; reorient technology and manage risks; integrate environment and economics in decision-making; reform economic relations with others; and strengthen cooperation. One must ask themselves for years to come, "Is this what we been doing with the agreement(s) with the Quebec Gov't?"

I need not to mention that at this point in time Quebec is rated # 1 in investment and mineral potential according to an article in the *Northern Miner*, a national paper in Canada.

Well, if we are to achieve excellence in economic development within our Cree World and the rapidly changing political and fiscal environment of today and onto the next generation. We have got to set our goals, so have our leaders done this for us, do they have a decision-making process that is fair to us the people, or is it something we can't be aware of, because of certain agendas and perhaps even commitments.

It is simple, because of the new agreement, which is basically an economic development agreement. We are to look to four major roles consisting of team building, individual development (i.e. a community, an entrepreneur, etc.) and skill development, productivity improvement and inter-community cooperation.

We are seeing the development of innovative entrepreneurial governments, but are we doing this within our Cree World, or has it slowly faded? They say that an entrepreneurial government must fundamentally change, from the old bureaucratic system that is a thing of the past. But in some communities they refuse to let go because of the manipulative power that goes with their authority. Innovative governments promote competition between service providers and empower people by pushing control out of the bureaucracy. Innovative governments measure performance and focus not on inputs, but on outputs, which are driven by goals and missions, not rules and regulations. It basically redefines the people they serve; they offer choices, and put their energies into earning money, not spending it. Tells you a little something of the Quebec government in relation to the new agreement with us Cree people. Who is going to be earning and who is going to be spending? We have opportunities,

but let's not let time tell, let's just do it, then you be the judge. As far as I'm concerned most of the funds will go to development, but just not in economic development over the next few years. Did we really sign an economic development agreement or a community development agreement, although they go hand-in-hand, but do we really understand what they really are, do we even possess a plan in which we monitor and implement for our Cree Nation?

They say that the new governments will prevent problems before they emerge, decentralize authority and embrace participatory management by encouraging market mechanisms over bureaucratic approaches according to statements mentioned by our leaders in local, regional and perhaps even at the national level. Let's see about that. Of course the entrepreneurial approach of governing ourselves is to perhaps focus on channeling service from all sectors of our communities to create what has become known as the healthy community.

One thing is for certain: In simple terms, we must as communities become more entrepreneurial oriented, especially at the governmental level, which I think some communities have already slowly integrated into their governmental systems. Let's just hope for the best and do our part as community members of our respective communities.

By A Cree Economic Development Officer

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A Chip Off The Old Block

Xavier Kataquapit

Recently I was fortunate to receive some moose meat from my cousin Ron. I remembered several ways that my mom, Susan, had prepared moose back home in Attawapiskat when I was young. The other day I tried one of mom's recipes and cut up some moose meat and fried it for dinner. I was surprised at the simplicity of the recipe and was even amazed at the fact that it turned out the same as how mom made it. I really enjoy a meal with traditional food because it brings back a lot of good memories of home and life up north on the James Bay coast. Many First Nation people still enjoy having a traditional meal with wild meat even though they live away from their remote home. All the Native people I know who live here in the south jump at the chance to have a meal of traditional moose, goose, caribou or fish.

It was good to have the smell of fried moose meat in the house as I had not had this meal for a long time. The sense of smell is one of the major triggers that help us recall our memories. The smell of moose meat brought me back to my childhood and memories of moose hunting and meals with the family at home and on the land.

The meal was also special in that a great deal of effort and adventure had to take place in order to bring this food to our table. In the fall during the hunting season, hunters and trappers spend days and even weeks searching for food to bring back to their families. Often these hunters have to deal with cold and wet weather and if they are travelling north on the bay they also face the danger of running their freighter canoes on the open ocean. When the hunters returned we listened to their stories around the dinner table as we happily ate our moose or goose.

Many Cree people enjoy moose most when it is fried or cooked in a stew. You have to remember that most of the time we prepared a moose meal from frozen meat. I have memories of watching my mom shave the frozen moose meat with an axe as it was the only efficient way to get supper ready quickly for our large family. She did this so that any of the moose that was not cut could be put back in the freezer as it had not thawed and of course because it was easy to fry. When I took the axe to my frozen piece of moose meat to shave off bits to be fried I managed to surprise my southern non-Native friends who do not consider the axe as a kitchen



utensil. Anyway after some chipping away with the axe I ended up with a pan full of moose meat.

I followed my mom's recipe for preparing moose. I cooked it on high heat with lots of onions to help soften the wild taste. I then added a little water and later a bit of flour. In a short while my moose meat meal was ready and I served it with mashed potatoes. Moose served in this simple fashion is delicious to we Cree and my non-Native friends seemed to enjoy it also. It is even more special when I stop to think that this wonderful meal originated near my home of Attawapiskat along the shores of the great James Bay.

WILL ON THE GRILL

by Will Nicholls

Well, ever since we had the Great Spaghetti Cook-off the ladies in the office are primed to show us guys what they can do. So with this in mind and not wanting to taste the same dish I decided to give them ten ingredients and let them come up with their own recipes. The rules are simple. You can make one dish or a main dish and a side dish. You do not have to use all of the ingredients but may not anything else.

I've chosen as the ten ingredients: 1 pound or less lean beef, carrots, potatoes, tomatoes, broccoli, beans, cabbage, rice, peppers and any spices or combination of spices in any form (fresh, powdered, whole, minced, chopped, jellied, etc.).

Some of you out there should try this at the office. It makes a great break from the restaurants or eating at home and brings the office together at lunch. Simply chose a couple of judges and as many contestants as you want. If you do try this and come across a great recipe, we'll be willing to put it into this column with the appropriate comments from staff members. Meaning you and your organization will get credit. Remember we place an emphasis on healthy cooking.

Good luck to all.

Gumbo a la Chicken & Sausage

A saucy little number that'll fill you up.

- 1 cup oil
- 1 cup flour
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 2 bell peppers, chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 6 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 quarts chicken stock
- 2 whole bay leaves
- 3 teaspoons Creole seasoning
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 3 pounds cooked chicken, cut into pieces
- 2 pounds andouille or kielbasa sausage cut into 1/2" pieces
- 1 bunch green onion tops, chopped
- 2/3 cup fresh chopped parsley

1. Season the chicken with salt, pepper and Creole seasoning and brown quickly.

2. Brown the sausage, pour off fat and reserve meats.

3. In a large, heavy pot, heat the oil and cook the flour in the oil over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture reaches a medium to dark brown color, being careful not to burn it.

4. Add the vegetables and stir quickly. Continue to cook, stirring constantly, for about 4 minutes.

5. Add the stock, seasonings, chicken and sausage. Bring to a boil, then cook for about one hour, skimming fat off the top as needed.

6. Add the chopped scallion tops and parsley, and heat for 5 minutes.

7. Serve over rice in large shallow bowls.

Potato Casserole

- 1 1/2 pounds (4 to 5 medium) potatoes, peeled & diced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons flour
- salt and pepper
- 2 cups milk
- 2 hard-boiled eggs, peeled & sliced
- 2 tablespoons chopped onion
- 3 tablespoons dried bread crumbs

1. Place potatoes in large saucepan. Cover with cold water. Add 1/2 teaspoon salt and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and cook 20 to 25 minutes or until potatoes are tender. drain; reserve.

2. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in medium saucepan.

3. Add flour, salt, and pepper; cook until bubbly.

4. Add milk; stir well. Cook, stirring constantly, until thickened.

5. Combine potatoes, hard-boiled eggs, onion, salt, and pepper in lightly greased 1 1/2 quart casserole.

6. Add white sauce; blend lightly with spatula. Melt remaining 1 tablespoon butter. (You can buy the white sauce package for this recipe. I won't tell if you do.)

7. Add bread crumbs; mix well. Sprinkle buttered crumbs over casserole. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Roasted Veggies

A nice little side dish that's easy to make.

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 pound peeled and cubed sweet potatoes
- 1 pound peeled and cubed turnips
- 10 cloves unpeeled garlic
- 1 pound chopped onions
- 2 teaspoons crumbled sage
- 1/2 pound peeled and cut carrots
- 2 teaspoons crumbled rosemary

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Heat a large heavy roasting pan in oven for 15 minutes.

2. Coat pan with half the oil and add vegetables, garlic and herbs.

3. Drizzle remaining oil over vegetables in pan.

4. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

5. Seal tightly with aluminum foil and roast in oven for 30 minutes.

6. Remove foil and roast 15-20 minutes more, or until vegetables are tender.

Homestyle Chicken Noodle Soup

Spring is here or just around the corner depending on how far north you are and that means allergies, flus and colds. This soup will help you gain back your strength. However, even if you aren't sick this soup will be great.

- 1 chicken (3 to 3 1/2 pounds), skinned & cut into 8 pieces
- 8 cups of water

Cooking tips

- 2 tsp. chicken bullion
- 5 carrots cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 3 celery ribs, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 onions, chopped
- 8 sprigs of parsley, chopped
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2- tsp. black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups medium egg noodles

1. In a Dutch oven, bring chicken, water and bullion to a boil over high heat.
2. Reduce heat to medium, cover, and cook for one hour until chicken is done.
3. Remove the meat to a bowl to cool.
4. While chicken cools, add carrots, celery, onions, parsley sprigs, salt, and black pepper to the chicken stock cook on high.
5. Remove the bones of the chicken and cut into 1-inch pieces and return to soup.
6. Skim the fat from the top of the soup.
7. When veggies are done add noodles and return the soup to a boil.
8. Reduce heat to medium and cook 5 minutes, or until the noodles are tender.

24-hour Fruit Salad

A friend of mine tried my fresh fruit salad then insisted I try this mostly canned one. I can guarantee kids of all ages will love it.

* Whipped Cream Dressing (recipe below)

- 1 can (16 1/2 ounces) pitted sweet cherries, drained
- 2 cans (15 1/4 ounces each) pineapple chunks in juice, drained and 2 tablespoons juice reserved
- 3 oranges, cut into small chunks (or 2 cans (11 ounces ea.) mandarin orange segments, drained, can be substituted for the oranges)
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows (optional)

1. Prepare Whipped Cream Dressing. (recipe below)
2. "Gently" toss dressing and remaining ingredients in large glass or plastic bowl.
3. Cover and refrigerate at least 12 hrs. to blend flavors but no longer than 24 hours.

Whipped Cream Dressing

- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 2 tbs sugar
- 2 tbs lemon juice
- 2 tbs reserved pineapple juice
- 1 tbs margarine or butter
- dash of salt
- 3/4 cup heavy whipping cream

1. Heat all ingredients except whipping cream just to boiling in 1-quart saucepan over medium heat; stirring constantly; cool.
2. Beat whipping cream in chilled medium bowl with electric mixer on high speed until stiff.
3. Fold in egg mixture. (No. 1)

Burnt food stuck to your favorite cooking pot or pan?

To remove burnt food from a pot, try boiling water in it until the food lifts off. Or sprinkle cleanser or a little dishwashing detergent onto the bottom, add water to cover, and let the pot soak for about an hour before scrubbing. If the burn is really severe, you'll have to repeat this process a couple of times. Or warm the pot in your oven; then remove and place it on a piece of newspaper. Wearing rubber gloves, spray all burned areas with oven cleaner and after 15 minutes wash in hot, soapy water. Don't try oven cleaner with nonstick pans, however—they require gentle cleaning. Wash them with hot sudsy water and a sponge or soft plastic cleaning pad. Avoid harsh abrasives and steel wool pads that can damage the interior coating.

Just why do I have a box of baking soda in my pants?

Yes, yes, you can cook with it but it can also do all sorts of other things. Here's just a few of my reasons why I keep a box handy.

1. Sprinkle it in shoes to kill odor. You men know what I mean.
2. If you're a part-time bachelor while the wife's on vacation and don't know how to work a washing machine, layer it in the hamper! Especially on the socks. A little warning though, because the little angel will kill you if you use this one as she'll spend all day doing laundry. Not the best "welcome back honey" message.
3. Mix a teaspoon of it in a glass of water when you take aspirin and the aspirin won't upset your stomach.
4. Sprinkle it on the carpet and let it stand for half an hour before vacuuming to freshen your room.
5. Add a little to your toothpaste to whiten those teeth.
6. And finally the one we all should know! Tuck a small bowl of baking soda in the corner of your refrigerator or freezer to eliminate odors. Note: This is for odors like onion, etc. If something's rotten, for God's sake, throw it out!

Eggspectations!

Ok, ok, I stole the title from the restaurant, so sue me and I'll ask for advertising dollars. But here's a few egg facts to ponder before you crack a yoke.

A fresh egg will sink in water, a stale one will float.

An egg white is easiest to beat at room temperature. Take the egg out of the refrigerator about 1/2 hour before using.

For light, fluffy scrambled eggs, add a little water while beating the eggs. Add vinegar to the water when boiling eggs. The vinegar helps seal the egg.



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The Foundation Trilogy

By Isaac Asimov

Ernie Webb recently gave me three first editions of the start of Asimov's Foundation series. Anyone who has ever seen me read will tell you that I love sci-fi or science fiction. Asimov is one of the authors who was responsible for that. It has been said that he was one of the greatest sci-fi writers and I would have to agree with that. In an interview he once said, "All I do is write. I do practically nothing else, except eat, sleep and talk to my wife."

But on to the Foundation series, which won a Hugo.

Foundation marks the first of a series of tales set so far in the future that Earth is all but forgotten by humans who live throughout the galaxy. Yet all is not well with the Galactic Empire. Its vast size is crippling to it. In particular, the administrative planet, honeycombed and tunneled with offices and staff, is vulnerable to attack or breakdown. The only person willing to confront this imminent catastrophe is Hari Seldon, a psychohistorian and mathematician. Seldon can scientifically predict the future, and it doesn't look pretty: a new Dark Age is scheduled to send humanity into barbarism in 500 years. He concocts a scheme to save the knowledge of the race in an Encyclopedia Galactica. He creates the Foundation, which though the Encyclopedia, will continue to be the caretakers and then masters of physical knowledge and shorten mankind's new dark age to only 1,000 years instead of 30,000.

Unlike the first Foundation book, which was a series of several related but not inter-connected stories, *Foundation and Empire* contains two longer stories - including one novella. This allows Asimov to flesh out the stories more - add more detail and plot intricacies. In the second story, the addition of The Mule, makes this the masterpiece of the Foundation series. It tells of a paranormal mutant, The Mule, who falls outside the scope of Hari Seldon's psychohistory. The story is told in almost a detective story fashion as we try to uncover the identity of The Mule. It's quite as suspenseful and involving as Asimov is at his best, and it's one of his must read classics. There's quite a lot of plot tangling and twists, and the ending is a shocker.

In *Second Foundation*, Sheldon's psychohistorian descendants, we learn more details about the second foundation. Does it still exist? Where is it? What does it do? Second Foundation is actually a clever answer to the critics of

Hari Seldon. There are flaws in psychohistory. This book explains what some of those flaws are, and how Seldon prepared to deal with them.

In *Second Foundation*, the book starts with the "Mule" and his search for the Second Foundation. The Mule has already conquered the first Foundation. He has the most powerful Empire in the Universe. His troops are undefeated. Yet, in the midst of his actions and continual successes, he halts his troops.

The Mule, who is a "mutant" able to control emotions, has discovered that someone or something else has this same talent. The Mule's key personnel have been attacked. Their initiative and creativity have been altered to make them ineffective and incompetent at their assigned tasks. Since his Empire was based on his mutant power, anyone or anything that has the same power is an overwhelming threat to him. Could this "second power" be the Second Foundation?

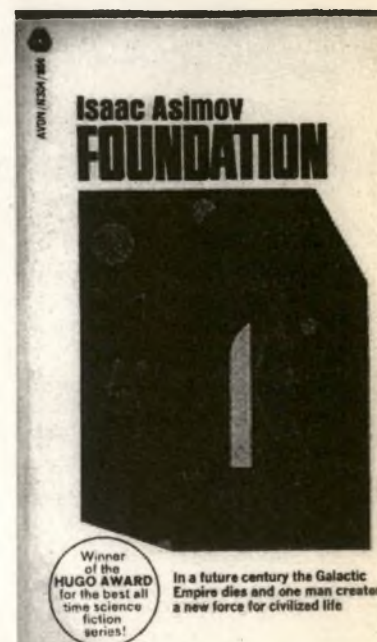
The second story in this book is the story of a group of scientists from the first foundation seeking out the second foundation. They are convinced it exists. Based on their new science, they are able to detect the influence of people whom they believe to be part of the second foundation. These scientists search for the second foundation. But sometimes success can be more dangerous than failure. That's all I am going to tell you. Buy the books and get hooked. The first one was written in 1952 but the series still carries on in reprint to this day. Four more books have been added to the original three but they by far remain the best way to get to know the foundation universe of Isaac Asimov.

Blood on the Hills

The Canadian Army in the Korean War

By David J. Benson, Published by the University of Toronto Press, 1999 reprinted 2002

I ordered this book because my father is a Korean War veteran. Though I had heard some stories from him I have



very little knowledge of this war. It turns out that I am not alone in this, as many Canadians know little or nothing about it. The war itself marked one of the first times that Canadians would be involved in a United Nations action. I guess you could say that it was a prelude to the UN peacekeepers that the Canadian army is so famous for. The book is amazingly detailed and shows what happened from the events leading up to the war and the war itself. One story I found to be fun was that, to boost morale among the Canadian soldiers, two hockey rinks were constructed on a frozen pond with huts for providing coffee, hotdogs and hamburgers. It was said some of the best hockey in Southeast Asia was played there only to be periodically interrupted by the war. During one hockey game involving my dad's unit, the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, and the Canadian Royal 22, a half-track broke through the ice at one end and flooded the game out.

The weather was one of the contributing factors to the morale problem. In the summer it was a blistering heat with swarms of flies combined with constant dirt and dust. The exceptions to this were when soldiers were soaked in blinding downpours and had to move about in the resulting muddy gumbo. In winter roads were often slick from freezing rain, heavy snowfalls could and would cut off much needed supply lines and night would bring deep and bitter colds. Most of the Canadian army clothing was unsuited to the conditions until near the end of the war. Weapons were out-dated and many Canadians traded for better weapons from other countries involved in the police action.

Most of the attacks took place during the night so soldiers would get what sleep they could during the morning. It was a light sleep as the enemy would still have the occasional day raid and you had to be ready. One advantage the allies (Canada, U.K., U.S., Britain, Australia, Belgium and New Zealand to name a few) was air superiority. They owned the sky for the duration of the war. Unfortunately the air superiority was next to useless during the night attacks.

A standard night practice was to have a third of the unit in defensive position while the rest were out on patrol or work parties. There would be switches to allow for two or three hours of rest. The patrols were necessary to find out what the Chinese were up to that night. It must have been nerve wracking.

Canada sent 21,940 men into what U.S. President Harry

Truman called a police action. In total, there were 1,543 Canadian casualties, of which 309 were killed in action or missing and presumed dead, 1,202 were wounded, 32 were prisoners of war and 93 died from non-battle causes.

The war was a part of our history and deserves more attention than Canada has ever given it. This book makes up for some of that lack and now it is up to us to read it so we can know what happened.

Top Ten Fiction list

1 EVERYTHING'S EVENTUAL, by Stephen King. (Scribner, \$28.) A collection of 14 "dark tales" about the strange and the supernatural.

2 THE SUMMONS, by John Grisham. (Doubleday, \$27.95.) A law professor who has been called home to Mississippi by his father, a dying judge, discovers more than \$3 million in cash in the old man's study.

3 2ND CHANCE, by James Patterson with Andrew Gross. (Little, Brown, \$26.95.) The members of the Women's Murder Club – a detective, a medical examiner, a prosecutor and a reporter – search for a killer.

4 THE NANNY DIARIES, by Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus. (St. Martin's, \$24.95.) A satirical look at rich and powerful New Yorkers through the eyes of an Upper East Side nanny.

5 BODY OF LIES, by Iris Johansen. (Bantam, \$24.95.) A United States senator summons the forensic sculptor Eve Duncan to Baton Rouge, La., for the purpose of identifying the remains of a murder victim.

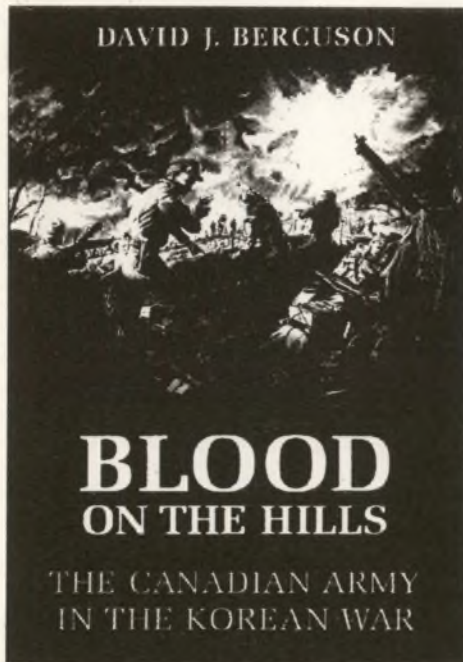
6 WIDOW'S WALK, by Robert B. Parker. (Putnam, \$24.95.) The lawyer for a sexy young woman whose much older millionaire husband has been shot to death hires the Boston private eye Spenser to investigate.

7 THE COTTAGE, by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte, \$26.95.) An aging, virtually penniless Hollywood star experiences excitement and even happiness after he rents out part of his house.

8 ATONEMENT, by Ian McEwan. (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$26.) A chronicle of the disintegration of an English family's idyllic life.

9 THE STONE MONKEY, by Jeffery Deaver. (Simon & Schuster, \$25.) A quadriplegic forensics genius tries to capture a notorious smuggler of human beings.

10 A CARESS OF TWILIGHT, by Laurell K. Hamilton. (Ballantine, \$23.95.) The further adventures of Merry Gentry, a private investigator with supernatural powers.





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101 - BIRTHDAYS

I would like to wish a Happy 21st Birthday to my loving and supportive brother Bobby Happyjack, on April 26th, hope your day will be extra special, because you are in everyway. Thank you for always standing by my side, I love just the way you are. But be very careful when you go out with your friends to party, remember don't party too much. Mom & I don't want to be worried about you. I just want to let you know just how much it means to me to have a brother who will always be by my side through good and bad times, I'm for-ever thankful to God that I have you in my life as a very loving brother, so have a wonderful birthday. I love you baby brother, even though you look older and taller than me, but I'm still the oldest!!! Love always, your sister Melanie Gull-Neeposh XOXOXO (Waswanipi)

We would like to wish a Happy 21st Birthday to our uncle, Bobby Happyjack, on April 26th, we love you so much and with all our little hearts, hope you will serve us a lot of birthday cake, mmmmm! Take good care of yourself, don't party too much, right? We love you, love always, the angels; Selena and Serena XOXOXO (Waswanipi)

I would like to send a Birthday wish to my big brother Bobby Happyjack, on April 26th. Hey, maybe someday I'll be handsomer and taller than you, what do you think? Anyways, hope you'll have a good one bro, I love you, take care. Love always, your lil brother, Willie J. Happyjack XOXO

Wishing a Happy Belated Birthday to the following people: April Neeposh on April 1st, Pearl Herodier on April 3rd, Irene Tent on April 14th, Patricia

Saganash my sis on April 19th and last but not least Harold Jolly on April 20th. Wishing you all the best in life and many more birthdays to come. Friend, Verginia Saganash. Hey Irene and April, see ya in summer (June). Take care girlfriends LOL miss ya!

I would like to wish my father, John Shecapio Blacksmith, a happy belated birthday on February 8. Dad, even though we have grown to be older people, know that I love you very much and that I still have the same love for you as when I was a little girl. Thank you, Dad, for making me the person that I am, and for accepting the things I can do and especially the things I cannot. I might have made some bad choices in my life, but Thank you, Dad, for never pointing your finger at me. I can even say that I'm grateful for those long hour lectures you use to give us on Sundays. I know I didn't understand much then, but now that I'm older and have a child of my own, it makes perfect sense. And I'm even grateful for those embarrassing "get

in the van" moments, for you always knew what was best for me. I know at times I thought you were wrong and I was right, but deep down I knew you were always right. Thanks a million, I could have never asked for a better DAD. Love: Darlene (North Bay)

I would like to wish a Happy Belated 1st Birthday to my cute little niece in Wask. Doris Faith Bobbish on March 22/02. The day you were born, your parents and us in the family decided to name you after your grandma's name who left this world 3 months before you were born. I am so happy you have her name. I love you from the bottom of my heart. You have grown up so fast and I hope Daddy takes care of you always. Love you; from your aunt Janet in Chisasibi.

I would like to wish a Happy Birthday to our wonderful mother/grandmother Daisy Erless on April 20/02. We love you and hope your birthday be as special as you are. Happy Birthday and many more to come, from Wilfred, Janet & Harvey in Chisasibi.

Birthday wishes to my sister April on April 4th. Hope you had a wonderful Birthday & many more to come. With lots of love, Crystal.

I would like to wish a Happy Belated 11th Birthday to my best friend Lindsey Blueboy on March 22nd 2002. May all your wishes come true. From your best friend in Wask. (You know who!)

We would like to wish a Happy 1st Birthday to our daughter Kelly Suzanne Matoush on April 2nd 2002. You are a shining little star who brighten our home and so many hearts, knowing the happiness you have in your smile and laughter. Day by day we watch you grow into a beautiful little angel. Soon you'll take your first steps then who knows what you'll become. We thank the creator for giving us such a beautiful little chubby girl. Happy 1st Birthday Kelly! And many more to come. We love you so much. From Mom, Dad and your big sister Baby Jane.

Wishing a Happy 3rd Birthday to my little angel Kayla Mowatt

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on April 12/02. And to my tall son Mike Mowatt, Happy 10th Birthday. Hope you enjoyed your special day and many more to come!!! I love you both very much. Love always... Mommy XOXOXO

Happy Birthday to my Mom Charlotte Wapachee on April 25th. Thank you for your love and for always being there for me. I love you Mom. From your son Abel Petawabano.

Happy 22nd birthday to my brother Jonathan Jolly on February 21, 2002, I hope you enjoy your day and please don't drink too much. Take care of yourself. Give a big hug and kisses to Ywaashtin and Makayla for me. Hi! Ywaashtin, boo-doo pie! I miss you all! From Ruth

I would like to wish a very special little guy named Jared "Luigi" Gull a very Happy 6th Birthday on April 15th! From Mom, Dad, your sisters and brother. We love you and wish you the best birthday wishes!!!XXXXOOO

Happy 6th Birthday to Jared Gull, love always Nanny, Leah, Jessy, Mimi, Little Pooch, and of course Fluffy!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL!!! Cathy Mianscum on April 2, who turned 40 (I think), Travis Blacksmith on April 3, who turned 15, and to Madison Elliott who will be 1 on April 9. From the dogs and their masters at 192 St. John and I.

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my cousin Taylor W.Blacksmith whose birthday was on April 2, 2001. It's too bad I could not be there to celebrate your special day with you. I could have opened all your gifts for you. Looking forward to seeing you again soon! Elliot B. Ottereyes

We would like to wish a Happy birthday to Gordon Gunner on April 8, 2002 and to Edith Gunner on May 2, 2002 in Mist and to Samson Matches on April 28, 2002 in Nem Happy Birthday to you all and many more to come. With love from Rebecca, Barry, Juanita & Emily-Ann Bearskin

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my cousin Taylor W.Blacksmith whose birthday was on April 2, 2001. It's too bad I could not be there to celebrate your special day with you. I could have opened all your gifts for you. Looking forward to seeing you again soon! Elliot B. Ottereyes

I would like to wish my father Matthew Wapachee a Happy Birthday on April 4, 2002. When I think of all the things you do, the ways in which you care. I'm filled with a sense of gratitude and pride that is always there. I seldom take the time to tell you that I'm happy you're my dad; so I'll tell you now what's in my heart, "You're the best friend that I could have!" Happy Birthday, Dad...I love you! Love: your daughter, Brenda-Rose

We wanna wish our Grandpa Matthew Wapachee a happy birthday on April 4, 2002.

Thank-you doodaa for your heartfelt hugs and just being around us to laugh and have a lot of fun. We love you with all our hearts. Hope you had a wonderful birthday...from your grand daughters; Valerish, Shelia & Tyra-Lynnsh

Happy 2nd Birthday to our cousin Christie C.Serafinwicz on March 23, 2002 from Nemaska. Happy belated Birthday Girl! from : Valerish, Shelia & your lil buddy Tyra-Lynnsh

I would like to wish a very spe-

cial little guy named Jared "Luigi" Gull a very Happy 6th Birthday on April 15th! From Mom, Dad, your sisters and brother. We love you and wish you the best birthday wishes!!! XXXOOO

Happy 6th Birthday to Jared Gull, love always Nanny, Leah, Jessy, Mimi, Little Pooch, and of course Fluffy!

300 - PERSONALS

This message is for Ron Sheshamush, I just want it to tell you that I'm very proud of you. I'm very happy to see you do well in your pilot training. These past few months I've seen you work hard and I know it must have been stressful at times, just hang in there it won't be long and you'll finally reach your goal. I know this was your childhood dream, soon it will be a dream come true. Love always Ruth

I would like to say hi to my friends in Chisasibi, Claudette

Sealhunter, Paul Napash, Victor Diamond (even though we didn't talk in person) Paul Fireman, Aaron Matthew, Kevin Shecapio, Janice wash.. etc... You all know who you are. And I would also like to say hi to all of the Group Home Staff, d'arc S h e m , C h e r y l F. Cromarty, Johnny Loon, Frank Chewanish, Daniel Kitty, Janie Pachano, Margaret Matches (mouse), Ellen Bobbish (cook), Connie Bellefleur and the other staff that I forgot to name but I'll never forget Francois Bobbish HI Y'ALL!!!! you know me!!! A girl in nemaska!!

I would like to say Hi to my friends from Mistissini; Melanie Gunner, Mabel Gunner, Hazel Gunner, Pauline Trapper and all those I didn't mention. How are you girls doing? Hope everyone is doing ok... Well I'm doing ok here. I just can't wait to come there

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Seal Hunter, Paula

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doing? Hope everyone is doing ok...Well i'm doing ok here. I just can't wait to come there again to see you girls again. So we can party all night long like before...lol...jk. The wild party animals...ehhh! Take- care and see you soon all!!! Oh and Hi to Geraldine Hester from Wask...whaz sup girl! Hope your doing great too. C-Yah! Last but not least happy easter to you all...From your friend in Nemaska Laura Wap...

I would like to say hi to R.C.F in Chisasibi....The cutest guy alive....I'm thinking of you while i'm back home.....I LOVE YOU!!! Say hi to kathryn for me.....anyways R.C.F add me to your msn messenger. here's my e-mail add ::nasty_bey-atch16@hotmail.com From a girl in Nem.Qc..Kathryn knows who i am...!

To someone I used to love in Waswanipi. I just wanted to let you know I still have feelings for you I cannot get over with because we have a daughter who was born on November 14th '01 in Chibougamou. Remember I was there for you. I don't know what to do without you both. For me it's a great lose, my heart is falling apart. I hope you could do something about it. Please take care of the little one, you know who I mean; Daddy's little girl. She will always be. From someone who still cares.

Umm, I wanted to say "Thank You" to a family in Chisasibi. I was one of the "Winter Wellness Journey Walkers" and I wanted to say "Hi and Thank You" to The Sam Family. To be specific, Stewart, Nellie, Winnie, Annie, Louisa, Martha and I don't really know the others. (lol) But, it was great to have met you all. Especially when I later found out we were family. (lol) Anyway, I just wanted to say "Thank You" for welcoming me into your home when you did

and surely my stay was wonderful. I was very comfortable :) Umm, I'll send you guys a picture in the mail soon, okay! Since I got your family picture. Take Care and Thanx! Shannon :)

Congratulations to all the Winter Wellness Journey Walkers that completed their walk in Chisasibi on March 22, 2002. It was surely quite an experience right folks? Forever in our hearts. Now it's up to all of us to keep it going. Let's stand together and keep it strong. Keep reaching for that shining star and believe me....you'll get it! Mesii wey "Miyupimaatisiitau". Keep moving, keep walking, stay strong and stay active. Take Care, all of you all over the place. Wherever you are, wherever you live,... Miyupimaatisii! From: SHA.NIA

I would like to say "hello" to Melina, she's from Mistissini. Hey there...sweet thang!!!! I won't embarrass you i just want to say "i miss you" and i want to be with you. You propobly think i'm **CRAZY**well ya, i'm CRAAAAZY!! about u.....ha ha. Well, i hope we don't stop talking to each other....i hope i didn't embarrass u!!! From someone who keeps thinking about you! (i'm from one of the 9 communities)

400 - MISC

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Happy belated Birthday to my second favorite Aunt. (inside joke) I understand it's the big 5-0. Hope you make it another half century. Thanks for all you have taught me. All my love and affection. Will.



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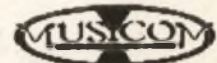
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